

Worksession

Agenda Item #	11
Meeting Date	June 20, 2005
Prepared By	Jessie Carpenter City Clerk
Approved By	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager

Discussion Item	Ward 2 City Councilmember Selection Process
Background	<p>At the June 13, 2005 City Council meeting, Councilmember Heather Mizeur announced that she will resign from the Council, effective July 19, because she will be moving out of Ward 2.</p> <p>Mayor Porter has scheduled a worksession discussion on June 20, to provide an opportunity for Council to determine a process for selection of an individual to fill the vacancy. Since the vacancy will occur less than 240 days before the November 8 election, Council may appoint a qualified individual to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. The appointment must be made within 60 days of the occurrence of the vacancy (by September 19).</p> <p>City Charter, Section 308 Vacancies on the Council</p> <p>(a) Method of Filling Vacancies. Should a vacancy on the Council occur more than two hundred and forty (240) days before the next regularly scheduled City election, a special election shall be held to fill the vacancy. If the vacancy occurs less than two hundred and forty (240) days before the next regularly scheduled City election, the remaining members of the Council by a majority vote shall, within sixty (60) days, appoint a person who is qualified in accordance with Section 302 or Section 304, as applicable, to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.</p> <p>City Charter, Section 304 Qualifications and Salary of the Councilmembers</p> <p>(a) The Councilmembers shall have resided in the City (and ward from which they are elected) for at least six (6) months immediately preceding their election and shall be qualified voters of the City. The Councilmembers shall maintain their principal residence in the City and in their ward during their term of office. If a Councilmember changes his/her principal residence from the City or from the ward from which the Councilmember was elected, the Councilmember's term shall be immediately terminated and the vacancy shall be filled as provided in Section 308 of this Charter. The Councilmembers are prohibited from holding other publicly elected offices during their term of office, and are prohibited from serving on any City board, commission, or other body that has authority to adjudicate or otherwise resolve disputes.</p>
Policy	City Charter, Section 308(a) and 304(a).
Fiscal Impact	None at this time.
Attachments	Councilmember Mizeur's announcement
Recommendation	Council to discuss a process for selection of an individual to fill the unexpired term to be vacated by Councilmember Mizeur.

Date: June 13, 2005
From: "Heather R. Mizeur" <hmizeur@heathermizeur.com>
Subject: Changes on City Council for Ward 2

Dear neighbors:

Unfortunately, I am writing to inform you that I will be resigning from my position as your City Councilmember effective July 19th. My partner and I recently purchased a home in another part of Takoma Park, and because we will no longer reside in Ward 2, I can no longer represent you on the Council.

What does this mean for Ward 2? According to the City's charter, a new Councilmember will be appointed to fill the remainder of my term - which will be approximately 10 meetings. The City Council will determine the process by which they will fill the vacancy at an upcoming work session. The seat will be filled permanently by the winner of this fall's election. I am hopeful you will give consideration to running for the Council.

I am committed to participating in Council sessions throughout the remainder of my term as an active resident. I want to be helpful in any way I can be of assistance to you or our new Councilmember in transition.

While I am excited about our new home, I am sad that it is outside our neighborhood's boundaries. I have truly enjoyed serving you and our community's interests on the Council. Thank you for the honor of representing you. I intend to stay active in local politics and hope to have the opportunity to serve you again in the future.

Please keep in touch. I'm not moving away -- only across town.

Best wishes,
Heather Mizeur